

House Resolution 274

By: Representatives Sellier of the 136th, Cheokas of the 134th, Talton of the 145th, Pruett of the 144th, and O`Neal of the 146th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. Samuel A. Lyons for his induction into the Georgia Aviation Hall of
2 Fame; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, inspired by his father who was a pilot in World War II, Mr. Samuel A. Lyons's
4 love for aviation began at an early age; and

5 WHEREAS, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, Mr. Lyons earned his pilot's license while
6 attending school at Presbyterian College; and

7 WHEREAS, after completing his college education, Mr. Lyons served for two years in the
8 United States Army and then returned home to open a hobby shop, Historical Hobbies; and

9 WHEREAS, during his years at Historical Hobbies, Mr. Lyons created fascinating and
10 hauntingly realistic paintings of a wide range of aircraft often mistaken for photographs,
11 which have inspired pilots and aviation fans of all ages; and

12 WHEREAS, his painting *Lead Solo* graces the Air Force Art Hall in the United States
13 Pentagon with many others located in such prestigious locations as the Blue Angel
14 Headquarters, the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, the Air Force Museum, and the
15 Royal Air Force Museum; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Lyons's paintings have been featured on many covers of books, magazines,
17 and catalogs, including the children's book *What's a Piper Cub* that inspires countless young
18 future pilots; and

19 WHEREAS, long recognized for his artistic merit, Mr. Lyons received first place in the
20 General Aviation categories of the *Aviation Week and Space Technology* magazine's Best of
21 the Best 2003 Aviation Aerospace Art awards; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Lyons is one of the few civilians who have flown in the F-15 Eagle, the
23 F-16 Falcon, and in the F-18 Hornet with the United States Navy's Blue Angels; and

24 WHEREAS, passionate about all things aeronautical, Mr. Lyons is an active member of the
25 American Society of Aviation Artists, the Air Force Art Program, the Experimental Aircraft
26 Association, the Vintage Aircraft Association, Warbirds of America, and the 8th Air Force
27 Historical Society; and

28 WHEREAS, on February 14, 2009, Mr. Lyons will be formally inducted into the Georgia
29 Aviation Hall of Fame in a ceremony at the Robins Air Force Base Museum of Aviation; and

30 WHEREAS, Mr. Lyons is rightfully deserving of admission into the Georgia Aviation Hall
31 of Fame for his many achievements and the inspiration he has provided so many, and it is
32 both fitting and proper that we recognize this great pilot's contribution to Georgia's aviation
33 history.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 this body commends Mr. Sam Lyons for his induction into the Georgia Aviation Hall of
36 Fame and looks forward to seeing this outstanding Georgian's achievements recognized and
37 recorded into Georgia's aviation history and legacy.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
39 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Sam Lyons.